

10/821 688

CJC ✓

ARP 5589.2
PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent of: Bellick et al.
Patent No.: 6,931,680 B2
Issued: August 23, 2005
For: SLEEPING BAG WITH STRETCHABLE PANELS

October 19, 2005

REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED ISSUANCE
OF CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.322

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,

SIR:

On studying the above-identified patent, the following errors were found (these errors are also noted on the attached form PTO-1050):

Column 5, claim 5, line 29: "stitch lines" should read - -
- stitch-lines - - -.

Column 5, claim 6, line 34: "claim 1" should read - - -
claim 2 - - -.

Column 6, claim 16, line 29: "fort" should read - - - forth
- - -.

Certificate
OCT 26 2005
of Correction

10/24/2005 MBERHE 00000046 6931680

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ARP 5589.2
PATENT

REMARKS

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.322, a copy of Amendment A, dated January 6, 2005, and a copy of the Notice of Allowance dated April 13, 2005, are attached.

Since one or more of the errors shown above were made by Applicants, the \$100.00 fee required under Rule 1.323 is enclosed.

We respectfully request that a certificate of correction be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael G. Munsell, Reg. No. 43,820
SENNIGER POWERS
One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 231-5400

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing Letter to the Patent and Trademark Office in the patent of Bellick et al., Patent No. 6,931,680 B2, issued August 23, 2005 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Post Issue, Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on this 19th day of October, 2005.

Christie L. Hartmann

MGM/clh
*Enclosure

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,931,680 B2

DATED : August 23, 2005

INVENTOR(S): Bellick et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 5, claim 5, line 29: "stitch lines" should read - - - stitch-lines - - -.

Column 5, claim 6, line 34: "claim 1" should read - - - claim 2 - - -.

Column 6, claim 16, line 29: "fort" should read - - - forth - - -.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER:

Senniger Powers
One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102

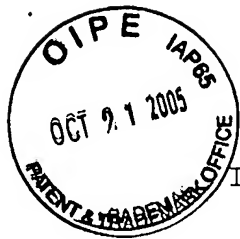
PATENT NO. 6,931,680 B2

No. of additional copies

⇌ 2

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



ARP 5589.2
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Bellick et al.
Serial No. 10/821,688
Filed April 9, 2004
Confirmation No. 1356
For SLEEPING BAG WITH STRETCHABLE PANELS
Examiner Tara L. Mayo

Art Unit 3671

January 6, 2005

AMENDMENT A

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,

SIR:

Please enter the following amendments in the above-identified application.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 8.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-25. Cancelled.

26. (New) A sleeping bag comprising an elongate shell defining an inner volume sized and shaped to receive a user therein; the elongate shell having a head end, a foot end, opposite sides extending longitudinally of the shell, an inner
5 layer, an outer layer comprising a plurality of stretchable panels of resilient sheet material adapted for resilient deformation when stretched outwardly by a user in said inner volume, and insulating material between the inner layer and the outer layer, said plurality of stretchable panels including a
10 first stretchable panel located adjacent one side of the shell in an area corresponding to a left shoulder and elbow of a user in said inner volume, a second stretchable panel located adjacent an opposite side of the shell in an area corresponding to a right shoulder and elbow of said user, and at least a third
15 stretchable panel located in an area generally corresponding to the knees of the user and extending from adjacent one side of the shell to adjacent the opposite side of the shell.

27. (New) A sleeping bag comprising an elongate shell defining an inner volume sized and shaped to receive a user therein, the elongate shell having a transverse centerline defining an upper half of the shell and a lower half of the
5 shell, a central longitudinal centerline defining a first longitudinal half of the shell and a second longitudinal half of the shell, a head end, a foot end, opposite sides extending

longitudinally of the shell, an inner layer, an outer layer comprising at least one stretchable panel of resilient sheet material adapted for resilient deformation when stretched outwardly by a user in said inner volume, and insulating material between the inner layer and the outer layer, the at least one stretchable panel comprising a first stretchable panel located entirely within the upper half of the shell and within the first longitudinal half of the shell and extending from one side of the shell toward said longitudinal centerline, and a second stretchable panel located entirely within the upper half of the shell and within the second longitudinal half of the shell and extending from the opposite side of the shell toward said longitudinal centerline.

28. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 27 wherein said shell further comprises an overlying portion adapted to overlie said user and an underlying portion adapted to underlie said user, and wherein the first and second stretchable panels are located in the overlying portion between the opposite sides of the shell.

29. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 28 wherein the first and second stretchable panels are located in areas of the shell generally corresponding to shoulders and elbows of the user.

30. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 27 wherein the at least one stretchable panel further comprises a third stretchable panel located in an area of the shell generally corresponding to at least one knee of the user.

31. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 30 wherein the third stretchable panel extends from one side of the shell to an opposite side of the shell over an area generally corresponding to two knees of the user.

32. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 27 wherein the outer layer further comprises non-stretchable material in areas bordering the at least one stretchable panel.

33. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 27 wherein the inner layer of the shell comprises a stretchable material.

34. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 27 wherein the insulating material between the inner layer and the outer layer of the shell has a greater volume in areas corresponding to the stretchable panels to accommodate
5 stretching.

35. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 28 wherein the insulation material in the overlying portion of the shell is attached to the inner and outer layers of the shell using offset stitch-lines, said offset stitch lines penetrating
5 only one of the inner layer and outer layer and thereby inhibiting the entry of ambient air into the inner volume of the shell along the stitch-lines, and wherein the insulation is not stitched to the stretchable panels.

36. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 27 wherein the shell tapers toward the foot end of the shell to provide the user a snug fit.

37. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 27 wherein the at least one stretchable panel further comprises a third stretchable panel located in the lower half of the shell spanning from adjacent one side of the shell to adjacent the
5 opposite side of the shell, said third panel extending approximately the length of the lower half of the shell adjacent opposite sides of the shell and extending a shorter length generally midway between opposite sides of the shells.

38. (New) A sleeping bag comprising an elongate shell defining an inner volume sized and shaped to receive a user therein, the elongate shell having a head end, a foot end, opposite sides extending longitudinally of the shell, an inner
5 layer, an outer layer comprising at least one stretchable panel of resilient sheet material adapted for resilient deformation when stretched outwardly by a user in said inner volume, insulating material between the inner layer and the outer layer, an overlying portion adapted to overlie said user, and an
10 underlying portion adapted to underlie said user, the at least one stretchable panel being located in the overlying portion between the opposite sides of the elongate shell, the insulation material in the overlying portion of the elongate shell being attached to the inner and outer layers of the shell using offset
15 stitch-lines, said offset stitch-lines penetrating only one of the inner layer and outer layer and thereby inhibiting the entry of ambient air into the inner volume of the shell along the

stitch-lines, and wherein the insulation is not stitched to the at least one stretchable panel.

39. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 38 wherein the at least one stretchable panel comprises a pair of stretchable panels located adjacent opposite sides of the shell in areas generally corresponding to shoulders and elbows of the user.

40. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 38 wherein the at least one stretchable panel comprises a plurality of stretchable panels located in areas of the shell generally corresponding to shoulders, elbows and knees of the user.

41. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 40 wherein the at least one stretchable panel comprises a first stretchable panel located adjacent one side of the shell in an area corresponding to a left shoulder and elbow of a user in said inner volume, a second stretchable panel located adjacent an opposite side of the shell in an area corresponding to a right shoulder and elbow of said user, and at least a third stretchable panel located in an area generally corresponding to the knees of the user and extending from adjacent one side of the shell to adjacent the opposite side of the shell.

42. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 38 wherein the shell has a transverse centerline defining an upper half of the shell and a lower half of the shell, and a central longitudinal centerline defining a first longitudinal half of the shell and a second longitudinal half of the shell.

43. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 42 wherein the at least one stretchable panel is located in the lower half of the shell and spans from adjacent one side of the shell to adjacent the opposite side of the shell, and wherein
5 the panel extends approximately the length of the lower half of the shell adjacent opposite sides of the shell and extends a shorter length generally midway between opposite sides of the shells.

44. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 38 wherein the insulating material has a greater volume in areas corresponding to the at least one stretchable panel to accommodate stretching.

45. (New) The sleeping bag as set forth in claim 38 wherein the shell tapers toward the foot end of the shell to provide the user a snug fit.

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are cancelled and claims 26-45 are added by this amendment. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 26-45 will be pending.

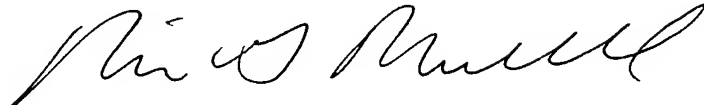
Claims 8, 12, 13, and 17 were objected to in the Office action but indicated as being allowable if written in independent form. Claims 8, 12, and 17 have therefore been rewritten in independent form as claims 26, 27, and 38, respectively. The rewritten claims are allowable.

Additionally, claims 2-11, 13, 15-18, 24, and 25 have been rewritten as new claims 28-37 and 39-45 to change their dependency to one of the new claims and to place the claims in numerical order. Applicants note that several of the new dependent claims (claims 28-31, 35, 44) have been edited to improve their form. New claims 26-45 are submitted to be in proper form for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael G. Munsell".

Michael G. Munsell, Reg. No. 43,820
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One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 231-5400

MGM/PEB/bcw

Via Facsimile 703-872-9306

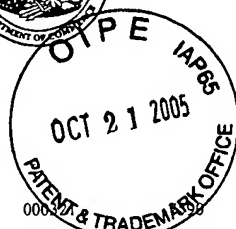


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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

04/13/2005

DK6/PCB/mmm

SENNIGER POWERS LEAVITT AND ROEDEL
ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE
16TH FLOOR
ST LOUIS, MO 63102

EXAMINER

MAYO, TARA L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3671

DATE MAILED: 04/13/2005 /

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/821,688	04/09/2004	Michael M. Bellick	ARP 5589.2	1356

TITLE OF INVENTION: SLEEPING BAG WITH STRETCHABLE PANELS ✓

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO ✓	\$1400	\$300	\$1700	07/13/2005 /

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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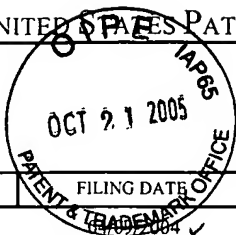
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/821,688	04/13/2005	Michael M. Bellick	ARP 5589.2	1356

000321 7590 04/13/2005 MEG/PEB/m6m

SENNIGER POWERS LEAVITT AND ROEDEL
 ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE
 16TH FLOOR
 ST LOUIS, MO 63102

EXAMINER

MAYO, TARA L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3671

DATE MAILED: 04/13/2005

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

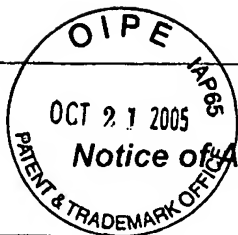
The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 0 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 0 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571) 272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

gfb
mmm



Application No.

10/821,688

Examiner

Tara L. Mayo

Applicant(s)

BELLICK ET AL.

Art Unit

3671

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 01/06/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 26-45.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 04/09/04 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date Dec Jan 2005
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

[Signature]
28 March 2005

[Signature]
ROBERT E. PEZZUTO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

PTO/SB/08A SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/821,688		
		Filing Date	April 9, 2004		
		Confirmation Number	1356		
		First Named Inventor	Michael Bellick		
		Group Art Unit	3671		
		Examiner Name	Tara L. Mayo		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	ARP 5589.2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
<i>TL</i>	32	1,811,821		Bloom	06-23-1931
<i> </i>	33	2,234,546		Basch	03-11-1941
<i> </i>	34	2,578,323		Sillaway	12-11-1951
<i> </i>	35	2,598,462		Strauss	05-27-1952
<i> </i>	36	2,622,248		Schaye	12-23-1952
<i> </i>	37	2,948,276		Topa	08-09-1960
<i>TL</i>	38	6,718,577	B2	LI	04-13-2004

Class/
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 5/482

Examiner Signature	<i>Tara Mayo</i>	Date Considered	24 March 2005
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵(K) of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached or place an "A" here if English language abstract is attached.

SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.